



**Meeting of the Plymouth Township Historic District Commission  
Monday, May 4, 2020 - 7 p.m.**

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**Next Meeting date June 11, 2020**

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

- a) Roll Call

**2) APPROVAL OF THE MAY 4, 2020 CONSENT AGENDA**

**3) ENACTMENT OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

- a) Approval of the December 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes

**4) BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**5) NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Swearing in of Colleen Azimi
- b) Setting meeting schedule for 2020 – *June 11, 2020 is the only meeting scheduled for 2020*
- c) Dedication ceremony for the State historical marker – *Jack and Wendy*
- d) Visit to Northville HDC recap-*Wendy*
- e) Joe Oldenburg has offered to speak in Plymouth about the history of DeHoCo
  - 1. He can speak at the Plymouth District Library
  - 2. Do we want this to be an HDC project or have the library do it?  
*Vote of commissioners*
- f) MHPN has asked for the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees to pass a resolution in support of Senate Bill 0054 – *Vote of commissioners*
- g) Goals for 2020
  - 1. Open discussion
  - 2. Vote of Commissioners

**6) OLD BUSINESS**

- a) Shearer Cemetery – *Wendy*
  - 1. Darrin Silvester, will schedule a May clean up date for the cemetery. He usually does clean up on a Sunday afternoon.
  - 2. Darrin will send Wendy a date once he has one set and Wendy will share with the other Commissioners.



3. Research for making Shearer Cemetery an historic district. What do we need? Compile a list.

b) Historic Plaques – *Jack*

1. Discussion of potential look of plaques

<https://www.pinterest.com/rubydynasty1/historic-building-plaques-signage/>

c) The Township has granted us space on their server– *Laura Haw*

1. Laura and Natalie have been scanning Darrin Silvester’s Shearer Cemetery research and documents.

d) Historic Resources Survey – *Wendy*

1. Ken Garner to take photos along 5 Mile Rd.
2. Wendy to take photos of structures in our historic tourism brochure
3. Can anyone take over Jim’s assignment? Taking up-to-date photos of all of the structures from Jim’s blog [plymouthmidiscoveries.com](http://plymouthmidiscoveries.com). I believe there are 34 of them from his website that are in the Township.

e) Tourism brochure

1. Review updated list

**7) ADJOURNMENT**

## **RESOLUTION**

### **Supporting Reinstatement of State Historic Tax Credits: Senate Bill 54/House Bill 4100**

WHEREAS, the historic buildings, neighborhoods, and places in Michigan townships, counties, villages, and cities distinguish each community and provide character and a vital sense of place that contribute significantly to the quality of life and the economic benefits enjoyed in and by each community; and

WHEREAS, the preservation and rehabilitation of historic structures, buildings, places, and neighborhoods contribute to the beauty, character, and economic vitality of Michigan's communities; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program, administered by the National Park Service and the Internal Revenue Service, in partnership with State Historic Preservation Offices, contributed more than \$12.2 billion in output in terms of goods and services to the U.S. economy and added \$6.2 billion in gross domestic product in the most recent fiscal year studied (2017), generating more than \$144 billion in private investment during its existence; and

WHEREAS, from 1999 until 2011, this State offered a Michigan Historic Tax Credit program under which each \$1.00 of credit leveraged \$11.37 in direct economic impact, such that during its twelve-year history approximately \$251 million in Federal historic tax credits were received that spurred \$1.46 billion in direct rehabilitation activity and created 36,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, the program was ended in 2011 as part of State budget fiscal stringency arising out of the Great Recession, at a time when authorized fiscal year State spending reached a total of \$47 billion, while the fiscal year 2019 State budget authorized spending a total of \$58.9 billion; and

WHEREAS, the labor-intensive nature of historic rehabilitation creates jobs and investment in local businesses and has been proven to generate economic activity equal if not more than equivalent to investment in new construction; and

WHEREAS, demolition or destruction of historic structures and sites deprives communities of one of their most distinguishing characteristics and can create negative impacts on local environmental conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Charter of Township Board of Trustees has recognized the unique heritage and history associated with the Township's past, dating to formation in 1827 predating Michigan statehood, by, among other things, creating this Historic District Commission by Ordinance No. 1016, Amendment #23, to foster the preservation of historic structures and places within the Township by enabling owners to voluntarily seek the creation of historic districts for their properties under applicable laws of the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Legislature is presently considering Senate Bill 54 and House Bill 4100 that would reinstate an investment tax credit for owners of historic residential and commercial properties who substantially rehabilitate their properties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Historic District Commission of the Charter Township of Plymouth endorses and supports Senate Bill 54 and House Bill 4100 and respectfully requests the Michigan Legislature and Governor to enact this important legislation in order to stimulate appropriate development and redevelopment and protect the historic character and quality of life of Plymouth Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth, Michigan.

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